

13-1944

# Negro Farmers Have Big Rally In Butler Montgomery, Ala.

Annual Negro Farmers' Conference held in Greenville last Friday was considered one of the best conducted in this section. These farmers came in cars and representing 18 communities of the county were in attendance. These farmers came in cars and trucks in view of unfavorable weather conditions the day before. The first and one of the largest delegations in attendance came from Butler Springs.

Hon. Joe N. Poole, State commissioner of Agriculture and Industries was a guest visitor. The program was centered around sweet potato production. Methods of hotbed construction together with bedding sweet potatoes were given by R. R. Bell, movable agent of Tuskegee. In this effort, a form for artificial hotbed construction will be on display on Mondays and Saturdays of each week at the negro agents' office for farmers interested in increasing their sweet potato yields during 1944. The sweet potato program for the county was outlined by C. P. Granade, county agent. 2-11-44

Farmers also learned lessons from a screen show on the care, selection and feeding a dairy cow. This presentation was given by Miss Clarabel Parsons, county home demonstration agent, and was of interest to all in attendance. Other speakers included Field Agent T. M. Campbell of the U. S. Department of Agriculture of Tuskegee and State 4-H Club Agent V. C. Turner also of Tuskegee. Both advised farmers to join for the postwar area by making wise investments, such as buying war bonds and stamps, and practice the good neighbor policy, keeping in mind that food will be rationed.

## Farmers' Conference Held in Crenshaw

The first Negro Farmers' Conference for Crenshaw County was held at the County Training School Friday. This conference was visited by 500 Negro farmers, 4-H Club members and farm wives. It was made possible by the cooperation of County Training School personnel and the Negro County and Home agents.

Agents contacted many white land owners and asked them to allow their tenants to attend this meeting. All requests were granted, and in some cases, transportation was provided by the land-owners. 3-1-44

The men witnessed such demonstrations as "bedding sweet potatoes," "Breeding baby chicks

and care of the Spring garden." These demonstrations were given by visiting agents from other counties and E. H. Hall, Farm Security agent for Crenshaw County (white). One hundred and fifty men and boys observed the demonstrations that were given for men.

The women witnessed demonstrations such as "Meal planning and food conservation," given by Miss Z. B. Richardson, recently appointed Negro home agent for the county, and Miss L. C. Hanna, state agent for Negro women, Tuskegee Institute.

The main address was given by Nicholas Kellock, state agent for Negro men from Tuskegee Institute, who advised all Negroes to play their part in the fight for freedom by producing food and feed for the family and investing their spare dollars in bonds and stamps. 3-1-44

Others participating were Prof. L. M. Campbell, principal County Training School; J. A. McLeod, Crenshaw County agent (white), Mrs. Johnnie Baxter, local Red Cross Unit, and Mrs. Ruby Reddock, representing the Welfare Department. T. J. Foreman, Negro county agent, acted as master of ceremonies.

## FARMERS MEET AT ALABAMA A. & M.

Pitts. Buttn, 2-26-44

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. — Approximately 300 farmers, home-makers, school principals and rural ministers in attendance at the 39th annual North Alabama Farmers' conference, held at the Alabama A. & M. institute last week.

Principal speaker was T. M. Campbell, field agent of the United States Extension service. Others on the program were Mrs. E. B. McKissack, county home demonstration agent, and Mrs. L. C. Hannah, state home demonstration supervisor.

Alabama

# Sec'y Wickard Urges Farmers To Go All Out for War Victory

TUSKEGEE, Ala. — Declaring that the achievement of the 1944 production goals will require hard work and careful planning, Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard, urged the colored farmers and farm leaders at Tuskegee's 53rd Annual Farmers Conference to make every hour and every ounce of energy count toward victory.

Taking as his theme, "Some Landmarks of the Negro's Contribution to Agriculture," Secretary Wickard reviewed the work of Booker T. Washington and George W. Carver in the interest of agriculture. He pointed out how their accomplishments and those of the farmers conference through the years are helping to make possible the record production which Negro farmers are turning out.



# Businessman Challenges South

## To Cooperation And Understanding

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.

### 29th Annual Ham, 3-4-44 Egg Show At Fort Valley Attractive

BY V. W. HODGES

FORT VALLEY, Ga.—(S N S)—Amid the fragrance of the South's loveliest meats and flanked by hundreds upon hundreds of Georgia's prized and choicest hams, C. C. Spaulding, eminent president of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company, left this South Georgia town seething in brotherhood and mutual fellowship Friday, as he flung a solemn challenge to thousands of Negroes and whites to face up to and solve their problems of interlocking interests and welfare by "Cooperation and Understanding."

The occasion was the 29th Annual Ham and Egg Show, which has come to assume nation-wide prominence under the sponsorship of the Fort Valley State College, and begun under the leadership of the late H. A. Hunt.

The famous Ham Show, a regular feature of a continuing four-day program, actually got underway on Thursday morning, with specialists who gave ready and expert advice and advice and instructions to the farmers of Peach and Macon Counties on food production, conservation, and consumption.

Friday saw the 4-H Achievement Pageant enacted in the auditorium of the school by the pupils of the rural school communities. Interesting reports covering a great variety of subjects, including number of families, churches, teachers in the community, amounts of war stamps and bonds purchased by the students number, in the Armed Service and other data of each interest and significance. 3-4-44

#### SPAULDING MAKES PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS

Addressing his message principally to the thousands of students of the two adjoining counties and of the State College, the famed president said: "You are going to need character and you are going to need education to meet the

challenge which life is going to impose upon us in post-war America. Get these two fundamentals and other things will follow, he said. There are 4-A's every young Negro man must seek, said Mr. Spaulding. "A church, a home, a job and a wife and family."

Talking in an incredibly bold and frank manner, Mr. Spaulding

then assayed the previous wrongs which many white people are committing against Negroes and made a passionate plea for them to set about correcting these evils, lest they destroy themselves. "For it is as true today as it was when Booker T. Washington first uttered the truth; you cannot hold another man down unless you remain down with him." Ending his able message with an original composition of his, he said: "If you discriminate against me because I am uncouth, I can become mannerly. If you ostracize me because I am unclean, I can cleanse myself. If you segregate me because I lack knowledge, I can become educated. But if you discriminate against me because of my race or color, I can do nothing. God gave me that. I have no possible protection against race prejudice but to take refuge in cynicism, bitterness and hatred."

#### OTHER SPEAKERS 3-4-44

Immediately preceding Mr. Spaulding was Kendal Weisiger, Information Manager, Southern Bell Telephone Company, Atlanta; Miss Camilla Weems State Agent for Negro Home Economic Teachers Savannah and Mayor Riley, Fort Valley, Georgia, who extended warm personal welcome to the thousand or more visitors in attendance.

#### PRIZED HAM WINNERS

Prized ham winners from among these having on exhibit, including Monroe Fluellen, first prize of \$20; Dudley Barnes, second prize of \$15; W. F. Flowers, third prize of \$12 and R. H. Ware a fourth prize of \$10. W. T. Anderson, editor of the Macon Telegraph, for the 29th year made the awards to the winners and gave an illuminating talk of the possibilities of the sweet potato as a source of food for hog fattening.

Continuing events included a Folk Festival on Friday night and a Religious Folk Festival Rally, including church choirs, quartets on Sunday. 3-4-44

In addition to the more than 600 hams and smoked meats entered in the contest, better than 300 dozens of almost every variety of egg was displayed, together with prized poultry. The general exhibit was under the direction of Mr. Oneil, far msupervising agent in the area.



13-1944

Tuskegee

# Secretary Of Agriculture Lauds Negro Farm Ace, 60

Argus - St. Louis, Mo.  
1-7-44  
Immediately following his address at Tuskegee before farmers and farm leaders of the South in which he summed up the important contribution which Negro farmers are making toward winning the war, Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard walked out on the lawn where students exhibited especially for him a herd of prize Holstein cows, and a flock of turkeys. There he greeted M.W. Lawson, a farmer of Prattville, Ala., and Mrs. Ethel Logan, a farm woman of Cypress, Ala. Farmer Lawson had won first prize among the men for judging livestock, and Mrs. Logan had won the first prize among the women for cooking and home-making.

## Shows Ability

Secretary Wickard shook their hands firmly and said, "You are doing a good job—good luck to you."

And they are doing a good job. Farmer Lawson, who is also a local minister in his community, has a truck farm, a couple of cows, a few pigs, and some chickens. During the spring and summer he collects about a case of eggs a week. 1-7-44

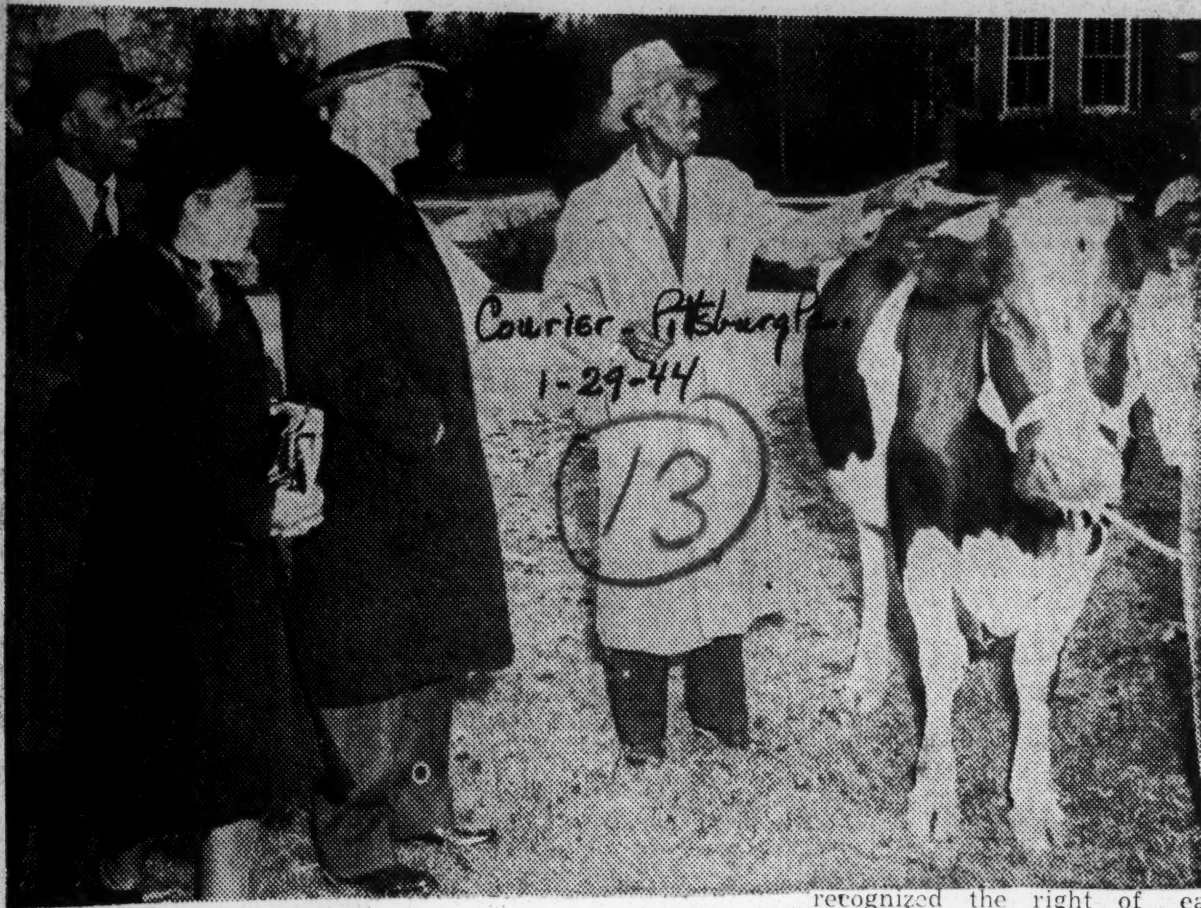
"I used to have a large farm," says Mr. Lawson, "but since my son went into the Army, there's no one to do the heavy plowing so my daughters and I now operate a smaller plot, growing mostly vegetables, broilers and fryers."

Mr. Lawson is about 60, but he's spry for his age. His hands show the signs of work, hard work; his face looks tired, a little confused, but determined, and although he wears glasses, he has a keen eye for judging good livestock poultry and field crops. Competing with many younger men, Mr. Lawson walked off with first prize in the Tuskegee annual judging contest this year.



## WICKARD VISITS TUSKEGEE—SEES JUDGING CONTEST

Tuskegee Conference



Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard showed a keen interest in the livestock judging contest when he visited Tuskegee Institute recently to address the 53rd annual farmers' conference. Here he looks on as M. W. Lawson, Prattsville, Ala., farmer, picks out the best milk cow in a herd of 15. Mr. Lawson was awarded first prize for judging livestock, poultry and field crops. Looking on with Secretary Wickard are Sherman Briscoe, USDA associate information specialist, and Mrs. Ethel Logan, of Cypress, Ala. Mrs. Logan won first prize among the farm women for cooking and homemaking—Polk photo.

## 54th Annual Farm Conference Concluded At Tuskegee Institute

12-15-44  
MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER  
TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALA.

Dec. 14.—"Ample farm credit on reasonable terms, and better soil, are important factors which the U. S. Department of Agriculture is working to achieve now and in the postwar period." Claude R. Walker, director of the Southern division of the Agricultural Adjustment Agency, declared here today in an address before the farm and home leadership group and the 54th annual farmers conference.

Mr. Walker's address brought to a close a week of farm and home meetings at the institute where scores of farm people and farm leaders from 14 States, the District of Columbia, and the Republic of China gathered for training courses and discussions.

Director Walker, pointing to the 1945 farm goals, said farmers had five objectives for next year: "1. We must produce enough for the war; 2, we must adjust production so that the Nation will have the right amount of food and fiber at the right time; 3, we must get the utmost good from our farm land; 4, we must conserve and utilize effectively labor, materials and facilities by growing only those crops most vitally needed; and 5, the department should help the farmers realize a fair and reasonable profit by planning production in line with war and market demands, and by helping them to rebuild and maintain the fertility of their soil."

The director said the AAA recognized the right of each farmer to participate fully in the program whether he be landlord, tenant, or sharecropper, regardless of race, creed, or color. Said he: "All farmers, regardless of color or financial status, vote in the AAA referenda."

Colored farmers came in for a special tribute when Mr. Walker said, "Negro farmers have done their part to bring about the proper use of the adjustment features of the AAA program. They have been highly instrumental in the attainment of the production goals and in carrying out conservation practices. We know they will do even more in the future to help rebuild and maintain the soil fertility of the South."

Other speakers on the program were William Pickens, of the war bond division of the U. S. Treasury Department; A. W. Jones, State AAA administrator; Clyde F. Clark, of the Washington office of the AAA, and Dr. Irving A. Derbigny, dean of the Institute, who welcomed the delegation in the absence of Dr. F. D. Patterson, president. The Tuskegee Army Air Forces band played for the occasion.

During the morning session, the Rev. James W. Sells, executive secretary of the Mississippi Rural Life Council, in a stirring address on "Man and His Kinfolks," pointed out the relationship of man to the soil, to other men and to God. Earlier in his talks to other groups, Mr. Sells told of the wide range of the council's activities.

The director said the AAA During the same session farm-

ers and farm women gave personal experiences, cited personal achievements in connection with various wartime programs, among which in addition to producing more livestock, were contributions to the Red Cross, war chest fund, and the purchase of war bonds and war savings stamps.

Family-sized farms supported by full postwar industrial employment in the cities hold the key to the future of American agriculture for both white and colored farmers, according to the findings of the farm and home leadership conference which opened here Tuesday.

The conference merged with the 54th annual farmers conference for the closing session today at which Director Walker was the principal speaker.

Discussing the theme, "What the various agencies of the Department of Agriculture offer farmers in improving postwar farming and rural development," white and colored representatives of agricultural agencies in 14 States, the District of Columbia, and the Republic of China drew their chairs up to a conference table and went into the over-all program of postwar agriculture.

12-15-44  
After hearing from officials of such agencies as soil conservation service, Farm Security Administration, the office of distribution, extension service and the AAA during the opening session Tuesday, the conferees went into the program of staff agencies and the office of the secretary to find out how these agencies may assist farmers.

12-15-44  
James Maddox, of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, opened the discussions by revealing some of the important research activities of his agency. He pointed out that the future of agriculture was largely dependent upon full employment in the cities. Said he, "If 55 million people can find employment after the war, farmers will have a good market for their products."

Both Mr. Maddox and Sherman Briscoe, of the U. S. D. A. Office of Information, indicated that farm mechanization was rapidly becoming a realization and that the problem now is to adjust to mechanized farming through cooperative arrangements so that family-sized farmers may enjoy the benefits of technology.